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Tuesday, December 11, 2012



All eyes on the black sheep

A black sheep, Chloe Morissette, peeks out from amongst white sheep onstage during The Nutcracker, performed at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion on Dec. 8 and 9. The show is put on annually by Heritage Ballet and was performed to sold out audiences this year. More on page 10.

Angelica Blenich
Staff

HHSS teachers begin work-to-rule



Sports, clubs, after-school
events cancelled in labour
dispute

Jenn Watt
Editor

As of Monday, all extracurricular activities were halted at secondary schools across the province, including Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

Stepping up job action meant to put pressure on the Ontario government, the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation announced its members would cease all voluntary services.

This includes school sports, clubs, students' council and band among other things.

"Teachers do a lot of things on a voluntary basis within the secondary school," said Peter Carroll, who represents the local bargaining units.

"There's a lot of activities that go on in a secondary school," he said.

In addition to halting extracurricular activities, teachers will also work specifically to their con-

see CLASSES page 20



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Elementary teachers to strike on Thursday

Angelica Blenich and Jenn Watt
Staff

All of the elementary school teachers in Trillium Lakelands District School Board will be participating in a day-long strike on Thursday, Dec. 13 as part of rotating work stoppages across the province.

Strikes started Monday and the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario said they will continue to cycle through school boards to send a message that the teachers aren't happy with the Liberal government's Bill 115.

"If the minister was serious about resolving issues with teachers, she would lift Bill 115's limiting parameters that are impeding local bargaining," said Steve Colliver, president of the Trillium Lakelands teachers' local in a press release. "We're interested in reaching a fair local agree-

ment, not playing political games."

"It is regrettable that we have been forced into strike action by a government that has no respect for the democratic rights of my members," added Tracy Blodgett, president of the Trillium Lakelands Occasional teachers' local.

Parents of elementary school students were sent a letter last Friday notifying them of the upcoming strike, said Trillium Lakelands District School Board communications manager Catherine Shedden.

"We sent a letter out asking for parents to make alternate arrangements ... they have been given notice to come up with a plan," said Shedden.

Parents are being asked not to put their children on the buses, while service is still running for all high school students.

Schools will be closed to students, however, non-striking employees including maintenance staff, administrators

and educational assistants will be working, said Shedden.

The board has not been notified about any intention to strike for more than one day, said Karen Round, school board chairwoman.

"We have been meeting regularly with our local elementary teachers' union, but this action is a fight between the teachers' union and the provincial government, not the school board.

"I do believe that the unions know the school board's hands are tied at this point in time," said Round.

While Bill 115 gives power to the Liberal cabinet to order teachers back to work, education minister Laurel Broten has said she will allow the one-day strikes.

According to the ETFO press release, the locals are in a legal strike position and are at an impasse with the school board.

Members have given the union strike mandates.

Two men charged with breaking in to local worksite, stealing

Two men have been charged with breaking in to a worksite in Haliburton.

On Nov. 21, around 10 a.m., contractors arrived at their worksite and found two people trying to remove things from the property.

The OPP was called and the suspects were found and charged.

Two men in their late 20s were charged with possession of property obtained by crime and breaking and entering.

They will appear in Minden court on Jan. 2 to deal with the charges.

Man charged with drunk driving after collision

A 42-year-old man from Highlands East was charged with impaired driving after crashing his car on Loop Road.

On Nov. 25 at about 8:15 p.m., the OPP was called to investigate the collision.

The driver had left the scene, but was later found.

The man was charged with impaired operation of a motor vehicle, dangerous operation of a motor vehicle and failing to remain at the scene of an accident.

He will appear in Minden court on Feb. 6 to deal with the charges.



Shoppers and police help fill food banks

The Haliburton Highlands OPP were busy collecting food for their annual Fill A Cruiser campaign on Dec. 8. Food collected goes to local food banks. From left are Const. Paul Potter, auxiliary officer Dick Schell, Haliburton Foodland owner Brad Park and auxiliary officer Wilfred VanLieshout. Chad Ingram Staff

Haliburton Highlands dogsled derby is back this winter

We are excited to announce Pinestone Resort and Conference Centre has offered their full support to help us host the 11th Haliburton Highlands Dogsled Derby on Jan. 19 and 20.

As in past years the race will welcome more than 70 of the best mushers from Ontario, Quebec, New York, Vermont, New England, Michigan and sometimes even further and their energetic dogsled teams to Haliburton to compete for a \$5,000 purse and points for the International Sled dog Racing Association.

The competition will wind its way through the scenic grounds of the Pinestone resort with the help of the Nordic

Ski Club grooming the trails to be in excellent shape.

The dogsled teams race at speeds of up to 30 kilometres per hour.

The races include four-dog, six-dog and eight-dog teams and once again this year the ever-popular Kid and Mutt Races will be featured on the Saturday, as well as a youth race and skijoring (cross-country skier pulled by dogs) on both days.

They are hoping to have a skijoring clinic one day for folks interested in getting their dogs off and running in harness with them.

Local artisans are being welcomed back for the second

year and will have an art show set up in the Northern Lights pavilion at Pinestone both Saturday and Sunday, showcasing their amazing creations.

The committee is actively looking at adding some new events this year and also raising the sponsorship funds to make the event possible.

For more information on sponsoring the dogsled races or volunteering to help at the event (high school community service hours most welcome), please contact Tanya McCready of Winterdance Dogsled Tours at 705-457-5281, info@winterdance.com, www.winterdance.com or www.haliburtondogsledderby.com Submitted

Haliburton County Echo News

Tuesday, December 11, 2012

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Health integration leaves many uneasy

Decision to combine county services in larger plan sparks discussion at HHHS board

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

There was mixed reaction to the Central East LHIN's changing community services health integration strategy during a Dec. 6 Haliburton Highlands Health Services board meeting.

On Nov. 28, the Local Health Integration Network board voted to initiate an integration plan for community services in its North East Cluster, which will mean combining the services Ross Memorial Hospital, Haliburton Highlands Health Services, Community Care Haliburton County, Community Care City of Kawartha Lakes and "supportive initiatives in the County of Haliburton."

Organizations that provide health services in the county were already working on a county-based integration plan at the behest of the LHIN.

Specific details on how the transition will work have not been released.

"What happened last week was just an expansion of what was already going into place," said board chairman Len Logozar, adding that he thought the use of the term "merger" was causing some stakeholders distress.

Community Care Haliburton has

expressed some concern about what a new governance structure for a joint organization would look like.

"The one thing we can't lose sight of is all these initiatives are in attempt to improve patient care," Logozar said.

Interim CEO Foster Loucks said there were two main factors in the timing of the LHIN board's decision.

One is the introduction of new Health Link program, which attempts to cluster services by areas with a population of at least 50,000 and the other is a \$20 million allocation from the province for small, rural and northern hospitals.

Nearly \$1 million of that has been earmarked for the Central East LHIN. It is to be used for operational, not capital, expenditures and could help fund the integration strategy.

According to Loucks, five per cent of users of the province's medical system take up 40 per cent of the resources.

Loucks thought the process was at least in part about trying to do a more efficient job at meeting the needs of that five per cent of the population.

Locally, Loucks thought the family health teams in Haliburton, Fenelon Falls and Lindsay would also have to be part of the integration process.

The interim CEO and former LHIN chairman said it's always been necessary for Haliburton County, with its relatively small population, to rely on its neighbours for certain services.

He pointed to a medical instrument cleaning agreement that HHHS has with Ross Memorial as one example.

"We don't have cardiologists... we don't

“

We've never been able to operate as an island.

— *Interim Haliburton Highlands Health Services CEO Foster Loucks*

have orthopaedic surgeons," he said. "I think we can look at this as the glass is half empty or the glass is half full. We've never been able to operate as an island."

Board member Carol Groves was concerned about the effort local groups had already put into a county-based integration model.

"It seems like the timing is cutting them off," Groves said. "What happens to all that work?"

"I don't think it's completely lost," Loucks said, adding the many results from a survey the group did could be used in the new process. "I don't see it as starting over."

Saying he supposed he was representing the glass-half-empty crowd, board member Bram Lebo questioned under whose leadership the new integration model would function.

"Who represents what's best for Haliburton County as a whole?" he asked. "Is what they are proposing indeed better health

care?"

Noting that no details on the shift had been given by a government he doesn't expect to be around in six months, Lebo wanted to know where was the proof that the type of integration being put forward even worked.

"You've said a lot and you raised a lot of questions," Logozar responded. "What are your solutions?"

Lebo reiterated that the question of leadership needed to be addressed.

Board member Hugh Nichol also expressed skepticism over the process.

"For many years we didn't have governance over health care in our community," Nichol said, explaining the county's health care was basically run out of Peterborough. "Governance is very, very, very important."

While he said he was happy to work with Ross Memorial Hospital, he said it was vital no control be given up.

Nichol also thought there'd been a lack of transparency.

"I don't think the LHIN has been very open and honest with the groups," he said.

Incoming CEO Varouj Eskedjian, who will begin his position in January, was at last week's meeting.

"I was caught off guard as well," Eskedjian said, adding he believed the changes were being driven not by the LHIN, but the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. "Having had ministry experience... I can say sometimes the ministry acts in ways that may surprise the field. The economy of this province is driving the pace of the change that is taking place."



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Taking a shot at vaccination policy

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

The following are brief reports of items discussed at a Dec. 6 Haliburton Highlands Health Services board meeting.

Interim CEO Foster Loucks told board members that HHHS medical staff had concerns about the immunization of all facility staff and that it had been suggested some kind of policy be instituted making it mandatory for all staff members to get flu shots.

"[If not], then they all have the potential to carry flu to the residents," Loucks said.

However, Loucks said there could be some ethical issues around the rights of the person and that some staff members could be "compromised" by receiving a shot.

"It's not as simple as declaring, 'thou shalt be immunized,'" he said, adding that an alternative approach might be making gloves and masks mandatory during flu season. "There may be some ethics issues even around that," he said.

Board member Hugh Nichol thought it was a complex case of individual rights versus the rights of the majority and didn't expect to see a resolution on the subject before the board any time soon.

Funding changes for certain procedures

A new funding model which allocates funds based on the number of procedures performed will apply to Haliburton Highlands Health Services in the upcoming years.

The change means that a portion hospitals' global funding will be removed and that funding will be allotted based on the number of procedures they perform, at a certain rate per procedure.

In most cases, that rate will be lower than the rate previously used in the calculation of funding.

For example, chief financial officer Cathy Outram said while cataracts procedures were previously valued at more than \$700 each, the new rate is just shy of \$500.

Cataracts procedures and hip and knee replacements will be the first to be funded with the new system, which will be phased in over a number of years.

"Being a small hospital, we don't do any of those procedures," Outram said, adding that even for procedures that will apply to HHHS in coming years, "we just have no

level that's anything to base funding on."

Parking lot expansion

Haliburton Highlands Health Services will be expanding the parking lot at its Minden site. Interim CEO Foster Loucks said the organization had purchased a piece of property next to the existing parking lot, with the deal closing mid-November. HHHS will be moving forward with a request for a zoning change from the municipality.

"We don't always need the additional parking," Loucks said, but added there are often vehicles parked along the road whenever there are events at the site. The new parking lot should contain space for about 30 vehicles.

Year in the Haliburton Forest inspires artist's work

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

"It's amazing what happens when an artist, a real estate developer and a forester get together," said Peter Schleifenbaum, owner of Haliburton Forest, as he welcomed guests to a gala event on Dec. 7.

The artist was David Alexander Risk and the extremely well-attended occasion, hosted at Peter Brady's Trophy Property Corporation office on Highland Street, was the launch of a book of Risk's work - *Living Forest II* - in honour of the forest's 50th birthday.

Risk is artist-in-residence at the forest

and Schleifenbaum said he takes the occasional bear hugs he gets as proof the two have become friends.

The office has been transformed into a gallery where Risk's paintings, inspired by the flora and fauna of Haliburton Forest, are on display and for sale.

Risk painted the works during the last year or so.

"If you buy a book, you should buy one of those to go with it," quipped Jack Brezina, who played master of ceremonies for the evening.

"I am so honoured just to be able to be part of the Haliburton Forest," Risk told the *Echo*. "They have a tremendous passion and a vision for a natural world."

Not only do students visit the forest, "we take the forest to the schools," said Risk, who conducts children's art classes.

The evening also featured two large cakes

and a rendition of "Happy Birthday" in honour of the forest.

The book is available at the Haliburton Forest's store.



Chad Ingram Staff

David Alexander Risk signs a copy of new book featuring his work during a gala at the Trophy Property Corporation office on Dec. 7. The art will be on display all week.

The bears have gone to sleep but

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Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir

Not about greed

AS FRUSTRATING AS rotating strikes and cancelled school activities are, it is important to take into account why our elementary and secondary school teachers are taking action this month.

When the *Echo* posted a story online alerting readers to intensifying job action at the high school starting Monday, the first comment we got called the teachers greedy.

Obviously, it is more complicated than that.

In the coming weeks, and perhaps into the New Year, students, parents, administrators and teachers will be under added stress as the union grapples with Bill 115, imposed by the province in September.

The bill limits sick days, puts restrictions on salary increases and changes the way teachers get paid.

Many will argue that in this economy, the province should impose austerity measures.

But the conflict is over much more than that.

Unlike other union-employer conflicts, this one comes with sweeping powers bestowed by the province onto its cabinet, allowing the education minister to unilaterally make decisions, and reverse collectively bargained contracts, to

get her way.

It allows cabinet, not the elected legislature, to shut down strikes and lockouts.

And the bill dictates that it cannot be legally challenged.

All of this together has put teachers and other education workers in a difficult position – carry on under government dictates and lose long-held labour rights, or protest the decision and perhaps preserve the right to collective bargaining.

To be fair, those of us critical of the teachers' actions need to ask ourselves: what would we do in their situation?

Answers may vary, but few could argue our educators have an easy choice.

Christmas lights contest

Don't forget to send in your photo of your Christmas lights display.

This year, we'll be posting submissions to the website to allow readers to vote on which display they like the best.

Photos will also be published in the Haliburton Echo print edition.

You can bring in copies of photos to the office or email them to jenn.watt@sunmedia.ca.



Jenn Watt
Editor



Delicate endings

photo by Darren Lum

Reason to believe

LIKE MOST MEN, I possess a number of almost plausible reasons for putting off my Christmas shopping until the very last minute.

First off, I want to be different by purchasing gifts that no one else deems appropriate. That describes generally anything left on the shelves on Christmas Eve and, more specifically, any tool that doubles as a nose hair trimmer.

Then, there is the fact that I want to be considerate to other shoppers by not adding my presence to the checkout line up. No one likes to be around a man who cries.

Perhaps most importantly, I want to condition myself for the imminent zombie uprising. And I can think of no better way to do this than by wandering the half-empty aisles of department stores on Christmas Eve and staring into the lifeless eyes of other men as they shuffle by.

Admittedly, that last one is a flimsy excuse – the undead, after all, have far more life in them and they don't beg to be shot.

In fact, as Jenn so ably pointed out, all my reasons for putting off Christmas shopping are more than a bit lame. But they're only lame if you define that as anything based on a heady mixture of fear and procrastination.

That's why I was so pleased to hear that the Mayan Calendar is calling for the end of the world on Dec. 21 at 11:11 p.m. Finally, we men have been given a defensible reason for leaving Christmas

shopping till the very last minute!

I know, I know. All sorts of people have already claimed to debunk the Mayan predictions, but I'm guessing these killjoys have ulterior motives.

No, I'm putting my trust in the Mayans. For one thing, as far as I know, they have no connection to the credit card companies.

Besides, this is just erring on the side of caution.

I mean think of how silly I'd feel if I spent my last precious hours and dollars trying to decide whether I should get the red or green festive whoopee cushions.

And think of the interest I'd accrue on my credit card if I bought this stuff pre-apocalypse and never had a chance to pay it off in a timely fashion due to the world's end. This is probably what the credit card companies are banking on and I bet it's in the fine print.

With my luck, I'd be one of the few who survived the apocalypse – probably due in some part to my experience in dealing with zombies on Christmas Eve – and had to pay it back.

I'm sorry; I think I'll just wait to see how this all plays out.

Maybe, I'm being overly optimistic here, but isn't that what Christmas is all about?

They say that people want to believe in the apocalypse because it is an easy way to avoid the insurmountable problems of man.

Like Christmas shopping, for instance.



Steve Galea
Loon Tales

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points of view

Getting the tree

JAKE WAS IN A BIND. He had promised his daughter Annie they'd have a tree to decorate for Christmas when she came home from school that day. But Jake was between jobs. So it was hard for him to reconcile spending money on a tree when he was saving all he could to buy Annie's gifts. Not to mention the fact that when he looked outside his windows he saw hills covered in evergreens. Unfortunately none of these were in his yard. Instead he was surrounded by birch and maple – beautiful in September but useless in December.

The saw hung in his shed and with no particular direction in mind, Jake pulled it off the wall and climbed into his truck. The hunt was on. There had been a flash freeze the night before and while the school bus had managed to navigate his road that morning, his old pickup had a light box and pretty smooth tires. This made for cautious driving and Jake's desire to not travel too far afield.

He knew of a nice section of spruce on the next sideroad and it was there he decided to head. City folk had been buying up the lots and erecting large homes like Jake had seen on television. He guessed they probably had four or five bedrooms, several bathrooms and the decks looked big enough to accommodate a couple of wedding parties. However, today they stood empty, their owners in the city awaiting retirement. For now they were still vacation homes only.

As he pulled up to the spot, Jake checked to make sure he was alone. No tracks other than his on the road. There it was, a clump of spruce of varying height, almost sparkling in the clear December sunlight. A family of crows perched on the tallest tree, talking amongst themselves and making their presence known. Now feeling more optimistic, Jake tipped his hat in their direction, grabbed his saw and proceeded to look for the right tree.

Now Jake knew this had to be private property. While the mansion-houses, as he referred to them, were on the other side of the road, Jake was aware that someone owned this section of bush, be it the homeowners or someone else. So technically he was about to steal a tree. However, he believed the loss would not be missed and he would have the money saved for Christmas.

It was surprisingly easy to find what he wanted: a spruce about seven feet tall, evenly branched and nicely shaped with a straight trunk. He could already see it in the living room corner beside the television. Annie would decorate it with him after supper that night, her eyes shining as she placed decorations from years gone past plus her own new creations. Every year she added some she had made herself from coloured paper and foil.

Jake had cut the tree and was about to haul it to his truck when he heard a car's motor. Dropping the evidence of his crime, he quickly returned to his vehicle just as he saw a car slowly making its way around the bend behind him. Not knowing what else to do with himself sitting like that in the cab of a truck in the middle of nowhere, Jake put his head down as though looking at something fascinating on the seat beside him. He prayed his footsteps leading to the trees would not be as obvious to the other driver as they now appeared to him. His heart was racing as the car slowed even further until it was about even with him.

The driver rolled down his window. "Need any help?" he asked. Jake lifted his head just enough to reply that he was fine, thanks anyway, before returning to the amazing object of his attention in the empty passenger seat. As the car continued on, Jake read a sign on the door indicating the driver was doing some sort of property assessment. He breathed a sigh of relief and waited. When the coast was clear, he jumped back into the snow, grabbed the spruce and threw it into the back.

Much later that night, after the tree was done and stood winking its lights in the living room dimness, Jake stood admiring Annie's handiwork. It had always been his way to make the best with what he had. And he wondered what people like him did in the city, surrounded by all that concrete.



Sharon Lynch
Down our Road



pic of the past

Haliburton Legion. Front row, from left to right, Harold Herlihy, Lorna Stinson, Harold Douglas and unknown. Middle row from left to right, Lester Walling, unknown, unknown, Anna (Hodgson) English, Vic Bishop, unknown, Mary Walling, unknown and unknown. Back row, from left to right, unknown, Edna Burke, Shirley Hodgson, Maxine Curry and unknown. Submitted by Ed Burke

letters to the editor

Spring tree planting program cancelled

To the Editor,

On behalf of the Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council (HHSC), we would like to thank the community for its support of our annual Tree Planting Program. Your commitment and support for the stewardship of our lands and forests means a great deal to us. However, at this time the stewardship council must cancel the 2012/2013 tree planting program.

For the last 15 years, the Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council has operated under the arm of Ontario Stewardship and has received financial and administrative support for its programming. Regrettably, due to recent changes within the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources to the Ontario Stewardship Program, the HHSC does not currently have the capacity to administer the tree planting program for 2013. However, the council hopes to reinstate it for the 2014 planting season.

The stewardship council encourages anyone who still wishes to purchase and plant native trees on their property to contact Richardson's Pineneedle Farms. Located in Pontypool, they have been the council's tree source for several years now. To learn more, visit their website at www.pineneedlefarms.ca or call at 705-277-9993.

**Haliburton Highlands
Stewardship Council Members**

Support SIRCH this holiday

To the Editor,

I would like to commend the board and staff of SIRCH for providing a way for citizens of Haliburton County and those who live outside its borders to purchase gifts that help people our local communities.

While reading through the online gift catalogue (<http://www.sirch.on.ca/>) I was inspired by the work that SIRCH does in our community on behalf of those who face daily challenges. By purchasing gifts through the catalogue my family and I have the privilege of partnering with SIRCH in the many programs the organization offers such as hospice services, healthy food purchase and preparation, wellness care for newborns, helping first-time students through School's Cool and giving a hand up to those facing economic challenges. Most of these programs use local trained volunteers and all of those helped are our neighbours.

Using the online catalogue is easy. Program descriptions are clear and provide good information about how the gift will be used. And after selecting gifts and proceeding through the "check out," one doesn't even have to provide credit card information – they accept payment by cheque! Plus, for each gift given, the donor may select an appropriate card to be given to the recipient being honoured by the gift (Christmas, birthday, etc.). A charitable receipt is provided to the donor.

see SIRCH page 8

letters

SIRCH gift catalogue available

from page 7

For those who don't have access to a computer a beautiful paper version of the catalogue is available and can be obtained by calling SIRCH at 705-457-1742.

I would encourage readers to consider selecting gifts for

loved ones this Christmas by placing an order through the SIRCH Gift Catalogue. Loving our neighbours just seems like the right thing to do.

Barbara Fawcett
Algonquin Highlands

Helping to put poverty under wraps



*By Mary-Lou Mills
Public Health Nurse
Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine
Ridge District Health Unit*

If the author of 'Twas the Night Before Christmas was alive today, he might be tempted to rework the opening line to his classic tale.

Instead of telling how jolly St. Nicholas delivered gifts to children "nestled all snug in their beds,"

he might have altered it to read: "Twas the night before Christmas, and some parents were filled with fear, wondering how to tell the kids, no money this year for gifts and gear." These revised words paint a truer picture of what some families in Haliburton County face this holiday season.

More than 20 per cent of local children aged six years and younger live in poverty. Some families have difficulty finding full-time work. Others cannot find any work and rely on social assistance or a disability pension. The working poor and those relying on government assistance find it difficult to cover the basic necessities of having enough food to feed their families and paying their rent and utilities, let alone having money left over to put gifts under the tree.

With the holiday season on the horizon, and these words still ringing in our ears, there are ways we can help take action against poverty and help families in Haliburton County.

Donating to your local food bank is one way to help especially given the increased demand for food at this time of year. Drop non-perishable food items such as canned fruits and vegetables, peanut butter, pasta, canned tuna and salmon, pasta sauce and soup into the food drive bins in your grocery store.

Another way to help is buying a new, unwrapped toy and dropping it off in a toy drive bin in your community. You might also consider donating to organizations that assist children, youth, individuals and families who are living in difficult financial situations.

Now is also the time to speak up about poverty. The United Nations has taken Canada to task for its inaction on poverty. In comments earlier this year, UN special envoy Olivier De Schutter criticized Canada for not doing enough to help the estimated three million people living in poverty. He pointed to "a broken social protection system and the failure of the state to meet its obligation to its people."

We can urge our provincial and federal governments to do more to address poverty. For example, join the call for action to increase the minimum wage in Ontario and to make improvements to the province's social assistance system. Recently, the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit endorsed the recommendations of a review panel (www.socialassistancereview.ca) that called for major changes in the way Ontario delivers social assistance programs. The recommendations put more emphasis on helping people find work, improve programs for people with disabilities, and increase benefits for single adults receiving Ontario Works.

We can also lobby government to develop a national poverty reduction strategy, a national housing strategy and a national early learning and child care system. For more ways to help and speak up about poverty in our community, visit the health unit's Rethink Poverty website (www.rethinkpoverty.ca).

Together, by taking action against poverty, we can improve the lives of people in our community and make the festivities a bit brighter for everyone.

Attention Readers

Due to the holidays, letters to the editor for the Haliburton Echo and Minden Times must be delivered by Tuesday, Dec. 18 at 5 p.m. You can email them to jenn.watt@sunmedia.ca or bring them to the Echo office (146 Highland Street) or Times office (2 IGA Road).

Other photo submissions must also adhere to this deadline in order to be published in the issue before Christmas. There will be no Echo or Times on Jan. 1 and 2.

Happy holidays!

Haliburton cottager realizes his dream of becoming a filmmaker

Angelica Blenich
Staff reporter

Jared Pelletier knew at the age of seven after seeing the film *Titanic* what he wanted to do with his life.

Now at 22, he is doing exactly what he had in mind.

Born in Aurora, Pelletier has been visiting the Highlands his entire life, spending childhood summers at his family's cottage on Stormy Lake.

With frequent trips to the Molou theatre in Haliburton and summer adventures creating his own home movies, Pelletier was destined to become a filmmaker.

"It started then [at age seven] and I got my hands on my dad's camcorder and I started running around making little videos with friends. It kind of progressed from there and always stuck with me," said Pelletier.

Now Pelletier is making his dreams come true as he recently signed a deal with Machinima Inc., to distribute a sci-fi series he created called *Omega*.

Pelletier grew up in the greater Toronto area working jobs in retail and briefly attending university for sport management.

"It [film] didn't seem like a viable career option ... around here it's not something people typically do," he said.

Although he tried to carve out a more realistic path, Pelletier found himself writing scripts in between his university classes.

"When I was supposed to be studying I was working on movies," he said.

The young man finally broke the news to his family, who were incredibly supportive of him following his dreams.

Pelletier enrolled in several film courses in Toronto and began making short films before graduating from college in 2010.

About a year ago he got involved with Machinima Inc., a large entertainment distributor based out of California.

"They signed me to a deal with very little detail," he said.

In March of this year Pelletier received a call from the distributor pitching ideas and asking him to direct a project.

"It was a huge shock obviously. I was working at Old Navy at the time supporting my film projects. I went from folding clothes in the fitting room to getting this call. Literally everything changed overnight."

The project turned out to be a sci-fi series that Pelletier started creating in March, wrapping up shooting this past October.

Omega takes place five years after an alien invasion, following the aftermath and the coexistence between humans and aliens.

"It's really about the people more than the aliens and sci-fi component. It's just about how these people are interacting in this post-apocalyptic world," he said. "It's a ton of fun making a sci-fi movie with lots of visual effects. That really satisfies me."

Episodes were written by Pelletier, with shooting taking place both in Toronto and north of the city.

By shooting close to home the director was able to incorporate friends and school colleagues into the project.



Haliburton cottager Jared Pelletier, second from right, works behind the scenes on the set of *Omega*, a sci-fi series the filmmaker wrote and directed himself. Photo submitted

The series is scheduled to be released in January 2013, online and on DVD. In Canada the series will be available on YouTube.

"It's been very overwhelming, only now is it becoming more real," said Pelletier.

As of this past June, Pelletier no longer works at Old Navy, focusing his attention on films full-time.

Although his family sold the cottage a few years ago, Pelletier still frequents the area, travelling to Haliburton at least once a year.

"Most of my childhood memories come from summers at Stormy Lake and just being in Haliburton ... it will always be a special place. I would love to buy a place up there one day," he said.

With season one of *Omega* complete, Pelletier has other projects in the works, including a feature film and second season of the series.

Filming for the series is set to start next May.

"If we're able to shoot in Canada again we have some very rural locations in mind. So I'm really hoping that we can spend a couple of days shooting in Haliburton."

While the young filmmaker gets his inspiration from some of the biggest names in the business, Steven Spielberg, David Fincher and Christopher Nolan, Pelletier also looks to classic films such as *Citizen Kane*.

"I really just try to appreciate all cinema and take inspiration from everybody and understand everyone's vision," he said.



Omega, a sci-fi series, was shot in and around Toronto. Photo submitted

Pelletier is intent on staying focused on his current projects and taking each day one at a time.

"It would be such an honour to be able to do this forever. In the short term it's looking good, but I think it's just important that I keep working really hard and growing and not losing sight of what got me here today."

To view the trailer for *Omega* visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=qzwcw-AOAlg.

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Ballet troupe marks season

Photos by
Angelica Blenich

Counter clockwise, Angels prepare to head onstage to dance in the annual production of The Nutcracker, at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion on Dec. 8 and 9. The show is put on by Heritage Ballet and was performed to sold out audiences this year.

Marie, played by Madeline Hopkins, holds her beloved doll during the final scene.

Snowflakes gather around the Snow Queen.

Ragedy Ann and Andy, played by sisters Abigail and Mikaela Kauffeldt, fire the canon during the battle scene in The Nutcracker.

Dancers from left, Jessica Bishop, Christine Bishop, Rebecca Kidd and Madeline Hopkins, get ready in the dressing room before heading out to the stage at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion to perform.



You're never too old to give the gift of life

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

Before her niece was diagnosed with a lung disease she hadn't thought too much about organ donation.

That all changed four years ago for Haliburton's Carmen Webster, whose niece Deanna Peacock, 54, was diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis – a chronic disease that causes your lungs to stiffen and makes breathing more and more difficult. Its cause is unknown for the majority of cases, but most frequent cases are related to sarcoidosis.

Peacock's disease, she said in an online entry, was related to Farmer's Lung – exposure to mould and dampness, according to test results from the Ontario Occupational Health Hospital in Toronto. Six months ago, Peacock had a double lung transplant, saving her life.

Webster is grateful to still have her niece alive for the holidays and for hopefully many more Christmases.

"She might live 50 years with another set of lungs. Had she not got that lung transplant we would have been burying her by Christmas. That's sad," she said.

Webster, who proudly holds her organ donor card while speaking about her family member, encourages seniors to register as a donor.

"They're not too old to donate their organs no matter what their age," she said.

"I didn't know this until I talked to Deanna a few times. They can refurbish lungs," she said.

No organ is too old to give someone a chance at life, she said.

Seniors, Webster said, should not only get their donor card, but have it registered.

"It's very important that it's registered with the Ministry of Health," she said.

Webster has been registered since 2006.

One organ and tissue donor can save up to eight lives and enhance as many as 75 more, the Ministry of Health and LongCare website states.

Webster said Peacock would have died in three months if she didn't get the surgery.

"She hadn't been on the waiting list very long because her condition really deteriorated very quickly," she said.

Her lung capacity was measured at close to 18 per cent of normal capacity just before the transplant.

Since receiving the lungs, Peacock is on a daily diet of 21 pills and three to five days a week of regular exercise at the YMCA. She is in the sixth month, which she said is the final month of a crucial period to this transplant process. She shares her experience online and offers her time to anyone who will listen about the importance of organ donation.

Follow Peacock's experience on the website www.car-ingbridge.org. Before the successful transplant, Peacock received a set of lungs that proved to not be "viable."

Peacock, who is grateful to her community in Orillia and her church for the support, welcomes opportunities to speak about organ donation.

"I understand the fear and the misconceptions that a lot of people have, particularly seniors ... I had three



Darren Lum Staff

Haliburton resident Carmen Webster shows off her Gift of Life donor card and reminds other seniors to register as a donor. Webster's niece is living proof, having a double lung transplant in July.

months left and I wouldn't be here if somebody hadn't had the foresight to become a donor," she said. "I've had a few friends pass in their early-50s because they were waiting and there weren't enough donors. So, I don't think that needs to happen."

She points out it costs nothing and is fairly simple to register.

Register your donor card online at beadonor.ca.

Peacock sees her transplant as a miracle, believing her perspective on life, family and friends has changed. She is grateful for this second chance, but, more importantly, knows the people around her are equally if not more grateful.

Contact Peacock at deannalynnpeacock1@gmail.com or call her at 705-325-7303 for public appearances. Two week notice is recommended.

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The unsung heroes take centre stage

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

They don't wear capes or run faster than a speeding bullet, but every one of them is a hero for Haliburton County.

On Wednesday afternoon a crowded room representing some of the volunteers who make things happen in the Highlands came together as part of the International Volunteer Day event facilitated by CARP Haliburton Highlands Chapter 54.

It was an opportunity for close to 50 volunteer spokespeople to speak about the efforts of local volunteers in the Highlands at the Haliburton Curling Club.

The volunteers are part of the diverse range of organizations falling under categories such as arts and entertainment, environmental stewardship, services and churches, sports and outdoors and health and social services.

The MC radio personality and dedicated volunteer, Mike Jaycock, who has more than 50 years of volunteering experience, knows first-hand the value of volunteers to a community.

Locally, he is aware of the many events and fundraisers through the announcements he regularly reads on the air. Jay-

cock said the thousands of volunteers are the strength behind our community.

"I imagine all the volunteers behind that and my heart wants to burst at the power of volunteerism in the Highlands," he said.

Despite more than 50 service groups represented and with just a few minutes for each representative to speak, he kept things moving and light with his banter and timely comments.

Jaycock said five years ago there were five million volunteers in Ontario who gave time to charitable and non-profit organizations and believes this national ratio applies locally.

"If you do the math ... that would mean here in Haliburton County we have close to 5,000 people volunteering. I'll betcha that's true. That's even before we count the young people. You're a crucial natural resource for the Haliburton Highlands. It helps us in many ways. It helps us make sense of our world," he said.

For all the problems he is aware of in the world from conflicts to the economic crisis, Jaycock said, he doesn't understand or know their outcomes. Volunteering is starkly different.

"The beauty of volunteering is when

see **WARDEN** page 13



Darren Lum Staff

MC and radio personality Mike Jaycock addresses the more than 50 volunteer representatives who spoke at the Volunteer Recognition Day event at the Haliburton Curling Club on Wednesday, Dec. 5. The event recognized volunteer organizations from many sectors. It was facilitated by the CARP Haliburton Highlands Chapter 54 to recognize the International Volunteer Day on Dec. 5.

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Warden congratulates volunteers

from page 12

you undertake a task you know exactly what the objective is. You know what the end game is about. It helps us express our compassion for others," he said, adding life can be difficult because of personal challenges.

"We're surrounded by many personal and family issues. When we volunteer we put our worries on pause. We go out of ourselves and we focus on doing well for others. Our compassion is a good reminder we are all a part of one earth," he said.

Special guests for the event included MPP Laurie Scott and outgoing Haliburton County Warden and Dysart Reeve Murray Fearrey.

"What would we have as a county if those volunteers didn't carry on what they do? It's free will. It speaks well of the conscience and commitment of the people that have come to the county," he said, referring to Scotty Morrison and others like him. "Look at the commitment he made. I could name so many of you."

Fearrey congratulated all the volunteers for everything they do and referred to them as a "great bunch of people."

Scott gave thanks on behalf of the province and said the Highlands have great volunteering reputation.

"Our communities would not be what our communities are without the efforts of all of you in the room and your families because they let you go and volunteer. It's time away from them. It makes a great big difference," she said.

Minden Hills Reeve Barb Reid also attended.

In 1985, the United Nations volunteers founded International Volunteer Day.

The relatively new reverend Joan Cavanaugh of the Anglican Parish Minden-Kinmount, who rivaled Jaycock with wit and humour in her brief time at the podium, propositioned potential volunteers in a unique way.

"The pay is not so great, but the benefits are heavenly," she said.



Above, Marg Chambers of the Haliburton Highlands Field Naturalists was one of more than 50 volunteer representatives who spoke at the Volunteer Recognition Day event at the Haliburton Curling Club on Wednesday, Dec. 5.

Below left, Bob Stinson of CARP Haliburton Highlands Chapter 54 welcomes the volunteer representatives.



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IT specialist relaunching training business

Jenn Watt
Editor

It's all about the "a-ha" moments for Loran Upton. The computer and information technology instructor takes most pride in her work when she can get someone to understand his new cellphone or computer program.

"I love a-ha moments whenever I show them something ... or working with a student who struggles in school," Upton said.

Since 2009, the West Guilford resident has been working for herself, running Diversified Business Solutions, which offers a range of services from building websites to helping students with assistive technologies.

Next month, Upton is planning to rebrand her business and focus primarily on training. The dream is to build a business strong enough to keep her in the Haliburton area, rather than commuting to the city, as she does now.

"I used to do website design, computer repair and training," she said.

"I need to change and focus on what I like to do [which is] the training piece."

Upton discovered her love for technology while working for a chiropractor.

Whenever the office computer system had problems, an IT specialist had to be called in.

Upton would look over his shoulder and learned how to solve the problems herself.

From there, she taught computer courses at Fleming College and then worked for Point In Time as their IT specialist.

At the moment, Upton primarily trains businesses in the area, but she can also do one-on-one training and groups.

Armed with a collection of laptop computers, training sessions can happen nearly anywhere and the breadth of her services is extensive.

She can teach you how to operate your new cellphone, how to set up and manage a personal or business Facebook account, how to correct a photo with Photoshop software, how to make a spreadsheet in Microsoft Office, the list goes on. (In fact, you can find an extensive list on Upton's LinkedIn page: <http://ca.linkedin.com/in/loran-upton>.)

There is a dearth of computer literacy in Haliburton County, the entrepreneur said.

She attributes it to several factors including an older demographic, lack of Internet access in some regions as well as the cost of computers. Still, there are many who could benefit from training to improve their business practices and web presence or their own employability.

"We have to figure out why people don't access those [training] resources," she said, pointing out that the county's libraries have public computers and extended hours for those without access at home.

With Upton's business rebranding will come a new business name. She will be running a contest online to help her choose the appropriate title on her Facebook page. (Search "diversified business solutions" on Facebook.)

You can also contact Upton at 705-854-0485 or email her at loran.upton@gmail.com.

Jenn Watt Staff

Loran Upton sits at the Haliburton branch of the county library doing some work on her laptop Dec. 6. The West Guilford-based entrepreneur is rebranding and renaming her business focusing on computer and Internet training.



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Chamber Events

Workshop: Online Video Marketing - The Virtual Sales Pitch

Presented by: Sarah Coombes, V3 Productions

Date: Dec. 11th, Time: 9 a.m. - 12

Location: Royal Canadian Legion -

Haliburton: Mountbatten Room

Cost: \$35

Join us to learn all about what is now the hottest online marketing trend! Information will be offered to participants on how to make the most of this fantastic online marketing strategy for your own business.

V3 Productions is Canada's premiere company offering professionally narrated images, and owner Sarah Coombes will show you how to incorporate this #1 online ranked marketing medium of video for your own website. Sarah was a finalist in the second annual Bears' Lair Entrepreneurial Competition. Her talent and knowledge of this key marketing strategy means this workshop is not to be missed!

Business Open Forums - Feb 5, 6 & 7

Is improving the vitality and prosperity of business in Haliburton County important to you?? The Chamber of Commerce will be hosting Business Open Forms at 3 County locations to take a look at the business climate of the Haliburton Highlands - your participation will help shape the work of the Chamber as a resource for business and the 'Voice of Business'. Everyone with an interest in business is encouraged to attend. Please contact our office for more information.

Member News

Welcome New Members!

1. All Green Ink - Roger and Heather Chong
2. Sun Coast Screen Enclosures - Andrew & Evonne Jack
3. V3 Productions - Sarah Coombes

GRAND OPENING!! - Wilberforce Service Centre - Fri. Dec. 7, 10:30

Gas is flowing again in Wilberforce, thanks to new owners Don Bamford and Randy Robski who shortly after purchasing the station, had it refitted with state of the art equipment. Congratulations Wilberforce on your new Service Centre!

Congratulations! - Peter Brady, Trophy Properties

Our sincerest congratulations are offered to Peter Brady of Trophy Properties. Peter recently received a **Lifetime Achievement Award** from the Canadian Commercial Council of Realtors - certainly well deserved recognition! The Chamber is proud to have Peter as one of its Directors of the Board.



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Source of oil leak into river found

➤ Ministry of Environment locates source of contamination into Haliburton's Drag River

Jenn Watt
Editor

The Ministry of the Environment says it has found the source of an oil leak into Haliburton's Drag River. Following an extensive search last January using a Geo-probe to drill into the soil in the Teddy Time parking lot just

south of the river, the MOE says it has determined where the oil is coming from.

"From the work performed at the site this year, using modern sampling technique, the ministry believes we have identified the source of the contamination is from the residual contaminants left over from the removal of the leaking underground tank at a nearby commercial property from the early 1980s," environmental officer Michael Longpré told the *Echo*.

"At that time, the property owner's insurance company undertook to clean up the spill on behalf of the property owner," he said.

Now that the MOE knows where the leak is coming from it is "reviewing options" regarding how to either stop the leak or manage it.

"In the interim, the municipality's agreed to maintain an absorbent boom in order to capture the seep," Longpré said.

According to the ministry, the oil leak doesn't pose a risk to health.

"We're maintaining the booms in the vicinity of the seep in order to control and capture most of the seep. It's not a health-related issue at the moment for anybody that's living on the lake," he said.

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www.haliburtonecho.ca

Haliburton County edges closer to high-speed Internet

Angelica Blenich
Staff reporter

By the end of 2013 about 90 per cent of those living in Haliburton County will have access to high-speed Internet.

The Eastern Ontario Regional Network is inching closer to completion as project contracts were recently awarded to Bell Aliant and Bell.

A 5,500-kilometre fibre optic network has been completed across eastern Ontario four months ahead of schedule, according to a press release issued by Infrastructure Canada.

The project included laying 520 kilometres of new fibre optic cable to connect 5,000 kilometres of existing lines, as well as building 160 new points of access for high-speed Internet services across the region, according to the release.

The project is scheduled to be completed around September 2013, at which point the majority of those living in the Highlands will be able to receive high-speed Internet, according to Haliburton County Warden Murray Fearrey.

"I'm still concerned about a few areas that aren't able to get it but it's the geography here and it's based on popula-



I think people will be very pleased with the service and pricing...

—Murray Fearrey
Haliburton County Warden

However, once complete, the network will offer access to most at an affordable rate.

"I think people will be very pleased with the service and pricing ... it's a huge advantage for people who can work from here now. Before they couldn't. We have to have it to stay ahead of the times," said Fearrey.

Created by the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus, EORN is the province's largest rural broadband project, costing \$170 million.

The initiative is being supported through investments by federal, provincial and municipal governments, as well as the private sector.

"We are very proud that this major milestone was completed ahead of schedule and on budget," said EORN chairman Dave Burton in the release. "It is a critical piece of the infrastructure needed to expand broadband access across the region."

The county has always been a strong supporter of EORN and the value broadband will bring to the community, said Fearrey in the release.

Funding from the federal government is being provided through the Building Canada Fund - major infrastructure component.



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What's on Stage this Summer?



is great family entertainment. **Opening Monday, July 1 with performances on July 2-5 & July 10-12**

Five nuns invite you to join them as they present a wild and hilarious variety show in an attempt to raise money to bury four of their colleagues. The four nuns died of food poisoning and await their final interment in the convent's freezer. This laugh-filled tongue-in-cheek satire complete with music, dance and audience participation,

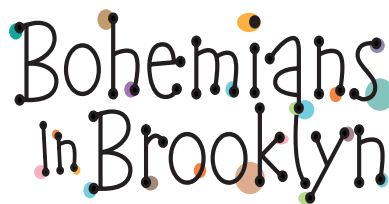


Thornton Wilder's classic play about life in a small town one hundred years ago, just before the First World War. This gentle reminiscence reveals that in fact those times are still part of our lives, if we will only look around us. Funny and touching at the same time, this play has become a classic of the North American stage since it was first performed in 1938. With its large cast and interwoven story, patrons are sure to recognize a character or two on the stage. **Opens July 15 & runs July 16-19 & July 24-26**



must get past bruised egos and unresolved grievances if they are to appear together in a television special about their careers. Sharp, witty and full of humour. **Opens Monday July 29 with performances July 30 to August 2 & August 6 to 9.**

Neil Simon's rollicking comedy is a perennial favourite. Two retired Vaudevillians who haven't spoken to each other since their last show, 12 years ago,



February House in Brooklyn in the early 1940s. The story is told in dialogue, readings and music. Featured performers include Tom Allen, Lori Gemmel, Bryce Kulak and Patricia O'Callaghan. **Sunday, July 21 at 2:30 p.m. with performances July 22 & 23 at 8 p.m.**

A juicy cabaret by Tom Allen based on a group of artists (including W.H. Auden, Benjamin Britten, Gypsy Rose Lee and others) who lived in



Dan Needles' clever script and the superb interpretation by actor Rod Beattie brings this gentle comedy to life on the Highlands Summer Festival stage for three performances. **Opens Sunday, July 7 at 8 p.m. with two other performances on July 8 & 9.**

A devastating fire at the Orange Hall in Larkspur leaves it a smouldering ruin. Walt Wingfield leads the charge to get it rebuilt, but lighting a fire under his fellow committee members proves a daunting task. Is it courage they lack, or is the devil in the details?



Scot Denton, Artistic Producer

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All performances take place at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion (NLPAP) in Haliburton, unless otherwise noted. Operatic Highlight Concerts are at St. George's Anglican Church, Haliburton.



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Master Classes

An opportunity to hear what makes a great opera performance even better as Highlands Opera Studio participants receive a public adjudication from an opera professional. Admission is by donation. **Thursday, Friday and Saturday, August 1, 2, & 3 at St. George's Anglican Church in Haliburton at 8 p.m.**

Richard Margison and Friends

A fund-raising concert featuring a variety of outstanding Musical Professionals \$75. **Sunday, Aug. 11 2 p.m.**

Operatic Highlight Concerts

The participants in the Highlands Opera Studio present some of the best loved works from the world of opera. Solos, duets and ensemble selections from famous operas from around the world. A different program for each of the concerts, **August 6 and August 8** at St. George's Anglican Church in Haliburton and the third concert on **August 15**, details to follow.

La Traviata

("The Woman Gone Astray")

A story of doomed love in 1840s Paris. Four performances at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton: "one of the worlds most well loved operas" **August 23, 27 & 29 at 8pm and August 25 at 2pm**

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A celebration tribute to the 100th birthday of English composer, Benjamin Britten features humorous, dramatic, and moving selections from his operas tied together with dialogue bringing to life the music that will be performed. **One performance only, Tuesday, August 13th.**

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community gives



Supporting local food banks

The Haliburton Rotary Club show their support for local food banks by purchasing \$1,000 worth of food from Haliburton Foodland, to be distributed to the Haliburton 4Cs, Minden Food Bank, Wilberforce Food Bank and Cardiff Food Bank on Dec. 5. From left to right, Rotarians Mark Dennys, George Kadoke, Foodland owner Brad Park, FoodNet representative John Teljeur, Rotarian Michele McTeague, 4Cs director Judy MacDuff, Minden food bank chairwoman Barbara Walford-Davis, Rotarian Ted Brandon, Wilberforce food bank representative Ken Mott and Rotarian Andrew Hodgson.

Angelica Blenich Staff



Century 21 donates to food bank

Judy MacDuff, front left, of the 4Cs Haliburton Food Bank, holds non-perishable items not usually donated, but needed. She accepted a \$600 cheque from Anne and Andrew Hodgson of locally owned Century 21 Granite Realty Group and all of its realtors on Dec. 6 in Haliburton. MacDuff said the food bank needs more people to donate sugar, canned salmon/tuna/ham, hamburger helper, flour, peanut butter, jam, Minute Rice and tea. The local realtors said they are active with local donations to area charities.

Darren Lum Staff

Auxiliary completes walkway project

Jenn Watt
Editor

There are more reasons for Highland Wood residents to stop and smell the roses.

Fundraising for a special walkway touring the long-term-care home's gardens is complete with a \$1,900 cheque from the Haliburton Hospital Auxiliary.

On Dec. 5, members of the residence family council met with auxiliary members to officially thank them for their contribution.

They toured the pathway, made of a spongy recycled rubber, which includes two new benches.

Gill Stephen, whose mother lives at Highland Wood, spearheaded the walkway.

In a letter to the *Haliburton Echo* in August, Stephen wrote: "Several years ago, my mother, Joan, a resident at Highland Wood, who has always loved flowers, wanted to go across the garden behind the building to smell the lovely roses planted by the fence. Pulling and pushing her chair over tree roots and the soft grass was not easy, but we got there. A better way was needed, I thought, for all the residents to enjoy this gem of a garden."

Soon after that letter was published, the community stepped up.

Combined with money coming from the Stephen family and topped off by auxiliary contributions, the path was paid off.

Stephen thanked all the donors for their support.




Jenn Watt Staff

The Haliburton Hospital Auxiliary presented \$1,900 to the Highland Wood family council for the completion of its garden walkway on Dec. 5 at Highland Wood. Back row from left, Carole Craigmyle, chairwoman of the family council; family member Gill Stephen; auxiliary president Tracey Lear. Front row from left, auxiliary member and family council rep Doris Laine; and family member Julie Goodwin.

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Singing for the season

The choir at Wilberforce United Church sings a hymn on the evening of Dec. 9. A Christmas service, led by Peter Walford-Davis, included hymns, readings and refreshments.

Chad Ingram Staff

Classes carry on, extracurriculars cut

from page 1

tracts, meaning they will come to work 15 minutes before class and leave 15 minutes after the last class of the day.

Carroll said it was possible that non-unionized management at the high school, such as the principal, could fill in for some of the teachers' voluntary services, but he didn't know what plans at HHSS were.

Principal Dan Marsden had no comment about the teachers' action.

Marsden said as of Friday he hadn't been informed of what the teachers planned to do and therefore could not comment on how the school would react.

Trillium Lakelands District School Board communications manager Catherine Shedden said classes would be continuing as usual.

"They will be operating as per usual, but without extracurriculars," she told the paper.

Carroll said the action would continue until the government returned to regular rules of collective bargaining.

"We want the government to repeal Bill 115 and allow us to bargain according to the normal labour laws in the province of Ontario so that we are able to reach rea-

“

We want the government to repeal Bill 115 and allow us to bargain according to the normal labour laws ...

— Peter Carroll
OSSTF

sonable collective agreements with our employers," he said.

Bill 115 allows the province to order teachers back to work without going to the legislature to do so.

Elementary schools are also angry with the legislation, holding rotating strikes throughout the province.

Haliburton County elementary school teachers and occasional teachers will be striking Thursday, Dec. 13 for one day.

Carroll said the secondary school union is considering ramping up action, but no strike was planned.

Dance academy holding Christmas wrapping fundraiser

Darren Lum

Staff reporter

and have dance Tuesday and Thursday. I need to make sure to go into the library at lunch."

The money raised will help with competition fees and related costumes, including rehearsal rental costs, Schell said.

The academy has close to 30 competitive dancers, who start at five-years-old and have the opportunity to compete in three competitions.

There are juniors, intermediates and seniors based on skill level.

Dance teachers, dancers and parents will wrap gifts. Schell advises anything oversized or an unusual shape to bring a box. All wrapping paper, bows and tags will be provided.

Competing energizes all of them, she said.

"It teaches them to really work hard at different things and to be motivated. They come out of competitions so pumped up. It recharges them," she said.

Save your Christmas wrapping for a cause and give local dancers an opportunity to learn.

The Haliburton Dance Academy is hosting its first ever Christmas Wrapping Fundraiser event at its studio located at 41 Maple Ave. beside the Win Yeung Chinese Restaurant in Haliburton from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 16. While you wait there will be hot chocolate and Christmas goodies.

With close to 16 years of dance experience and having her dance start with the academy she runs and owns, Chyna Schell sees a tremendous upside for her dancers, who develop discipline and organization.

"It teaches them so much it's unbelievable," she said. "Prioritizing time [is one of them]. I remember tiny little things that I would learn I swear came from dance. [For example] I have an essay due Friday

**As of Dec 6th,
we have raised \$29,000
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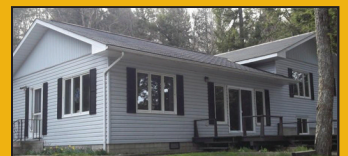
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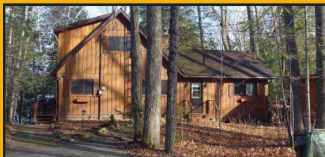
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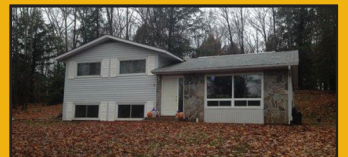
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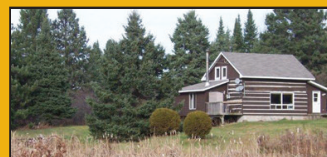
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Reads of the week



Book of the Week

One Good Hustle by Billie Livingston
Teenager Sammie is the child of two con artists. A drifter, unsure of whether she is destined to follow in her parents' shoes, Sammie moves into the family home of a friend in order to escape living with her mother, a dysfunctional woman who has turned to alcohol in the wake of a hustle gone disastrously wrong. This novel chronicles one life-changing summer as Sammie tries to reconcile her longing for the approval of her unconventional parents with her aching desire for normalcy. For fans of *White Oleander* by Janet Finch, *One Good Hustle* is an unsparing novel about the confusion of adolescence, family identity and the relationship between mother and daughter. You can reserve it at the Haliburton County Public Library.

Junior Book of the Week Picture Book Title

The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister
Far, far away, in the very depths of the ocean, there lived a very special fish, with sparkling scales of every colour imaginable, which made him the most beautiful creature in the entire sea. But his beauty was both a gift and a curse, because his shining scales made him vain and greedy, and because of this he was lonely. But by embark-

ing on a journey of self-discovery, the Rainbow Fish comes to learn the importance of sharing, and the joys of giving. *The Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister is a delightful picture book, with beautiful illustrations, sure to enchant any reader. Reserve it at your branch of the Haliburton County Public Library.

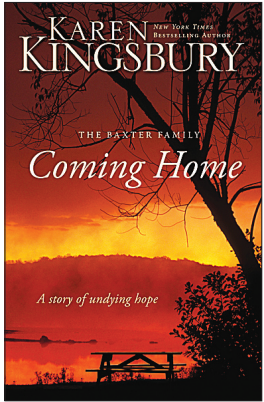
Local Celebrity Read



Diane Peacock of the Minden Hills branch of the Haliburton County Public Library recently chose *Coming Home* by Karen Kingsbury as one of her favourite reads of the year, as shown in the library's annual Staff Picks brochure. In this novel, Peacock explains, "the Baxter siblings and their families decide to have a lakeside reunion to celebrate their father's 70th birthday. Just before the big day, tragedy strikes and the unthinkable

happens. The family must rally together to get through the hours of waiting and, while they do, memories that bring healing and even hope surface during a time of sadness and despair. Their love overshadows their heartache

and brings this family closer together than ever before."
"I love reading any of Karen Kingsbury's books whether it be her series or her standalone novels," says Peacock. "When I start one of Karen's books I know I will be in for a very uplifting read. I know personally I can't wait for the next one of her books to be released."



News & Events

Free holiday children's programming is set for the Minden Hills, Dysart and Wilberforce branches of the Library. Stop by Minden Dec. 27, Jan. 2 (10 to 11 a.m.); Dysart Dec. 29, Jan. 4 (10 to 11 a.m.); or Wilberforce Dec. 28, Jan. 3 (12:30 to 1:30 p.m.) for stories, games and crafts.

All featured books available at
Haliburton County Public Library

Ukrainian folk dance introduced to the Highlands

Angelica Blenich
Staff reporter

Maryssa Kulyk has been dancing for almost all of her life.
The 27-year-old from Toronto recently moved to the Highlands, bringing with her 25 years of dance experience.
Of Ukrainian descent, Kulyk is introducing traditional Ukrainian folk dancing to the county by offering a class at Heritage Ballet.
The European style of dance stems from traditional ballet and includes a lot of kicks, lifts and acrobatics, said Kulyk.
"The girls are master spinners, it's really an acrobatic

style of dance," she said, adding it is one of her favourite genres to do.
Upon moving to the county Kulyk got in touch with Julie Barban, owner of Heritage Ballet, with the idea of getting involved in the dance community.
"I've always been a dancer and I wanted to see if there was a way I could fit in at the studio," said Kulyk.

Barban was immediately interested and suggested Kulyk teach something she was passionate about and was different from traditional styles of dance already offered.
Those interested in signing up for the class should contact Barban at Julie.barban@gmail.com.
Times and days the class will be offered will be determined based on demand.



Angelica Blenich Staff
Students at Heritage Ballet learn the art of Ukrainian folk dancing from instructor Maryssa Kulyk, who recently moved to the county. The class is open to all dancers interested in learning the European style of dancing, which includes lots of spins, kicks and acrobatic moves. Back row from left, Noelle Dupret-Smith, Betty Paton. Front row from left, Holden Dupret-Smith, Julian Anderson.

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The Haliburton County Echo • Tuesday, December 11, 2012

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Haliburton County Echo

Sports

Hawks triumph in home opener

➤ Red Hawks win 7-2 in penalty riddled game

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

As far as home openers go it went close to the usual winning script for the Red Hawks boys' hockey team against the Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School Griffins on Thursday, Dec. 6.

The usually large and boisterous home opener crowd was missing, replaced mostly by friends and family of the players because of the team's move to the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena in Minden since renovations are underway at the Dysart Arena in Haliburton.

Despite being away from the usual home venue, the Red Hawks boys' hockey team showed their perennial dominance.

The only hiccup to an otherwise dominating Red Hawks performance were the opening minutes of the home opener. They surrendered two penalties and a powerplay goal for a one-goal deficit, 1-0.

The quick Griffins strike sparked an offensive tide and woke the proverbial dragon, which strung together six unanswered goals for a 7-2 win.

It all started with a smart play and great footwork by Red Hawks player Stewart Chaulk, who lost his stick and used his feet to keep a play alive deep in the Griffins' end. Chaulk then kicked a pass from the boards to Nick Hunter who found an open Jake Harrison for the team's tying goal, 1-1.

Red Hawks forward Nate Feir, who led all scorers with a hat-trick and an assist, added another goal minutes later from a nice cross-ice feed from Jordan Howe, who finished with three assists.

Red Hawks defenceman Tanner Hamilton tallied the eventual game winner late in the first period.

Coach Ron Yake attributes the slow start to penalties that were a product of youthful enthusiasm.

"It was a high energy game. Guys were excited," he said. "It was a slow start. We had some excited guys and they're teenagers. It's all about focus. It's tough to have focus when it's your first game. We came around."

Like other years, speed and aggression continue to be the team's modus operandi despite 10 new players.

"The small guys have to be gritty and the big guys have to do their thing too. And the puck has to move and everyone has to have a lot of energy," he said, adding the skill is there too.

Both goalies got to play.

With 6:22 left in the second period, Brayden Frost came into the game to replace starting goalie Jordan Hamilton.

Yake said giving both goalies a chance to play was part of his plan coming in with a likely suspension of season caused by the current labour negotiations between the teachers and the province.

"First games as high school hockey players. It's exciting for them. They both did very well," he said.

Both goalies, who surrendered a goal each, were solid, controlling rebounds well with the few shots they faced.

HHSS forward Kieran Porapat and teammate Joel Fedeski added insurance markers for their first goals.

After the initial power-play goal, the Red Hawks didn't surrender another in four short-handed scenarios, including one five-on-three TASS opportunity.

The Griffins drop below .500 with the loss and are 1-2-0 on the season.

The next game and the season may be postponed or cancelled due to the teachers' work-to-rule-plans.



Darren Lum Staff

Red Hawks forward Jordan Howe, in white, battles for a loose puck with two Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School defenders in the HHSS home opener at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena in Minden on Thursday, Dec. 6. Howe finished with three assists in the 7-2 win.



Red Hawks forward Jake Harrison celebrates with teammates after tying the game in the first period against the visiting Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School Griffins at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena in Minden on Thursday, Dec. 6. Harrison's goal was the start of six unanswered goals in the Red Hawks 7-2 home opener win.

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Rookies impress in wrestling tournament



First year Red Hawks wrestler Matthew Pheaton scrambles with his opponent in the 41 kg weight class at the Kenner Rams Wrestling Tournament in Peterborough on Wednesday, Dec. 5. Pheaton finished second. Submitted by Paul Klose

On Wednesday Dec. 5, the Red Hawks Wrestling Team travelled to Peterborough to compete at the Kenner Rams Wrestling Tournament.

Overall, coaches Dan Fockler and Paul Klose were pleased with the results.

They were especially impressed with the performances given by the male rookies on the team. A solid group of eight junior boys joined the team this year and show great potential.

"They are athletic, they have good instincts and they enjoy the sport. It makes coaching them a true pleasure and they like learning new technique. It's great to have this group of young men in the mat room," Klose said.

The veteran wrestlers on the team led by example. All senior Red Hawks advanced to the finals with solid matches throughout the day.

Congratulations to all HHSS wrestlers on a terrific day.

Results:

First Place – Matt Sexsmith (cadet 89 kg), Nicole Honderich (44 kg), Maia O'Sullivan (64 kg)

Second Place – Matt Pheaton (cadet 41 kg), Keith Burley (89 kg), Caitlyn Griffin (51 kg)

Third Place – Lucus Esson (cadet 72 kg), Marques Bortolussi (cadet 77 kg), Cody Cox (61 kg)



Red Hawks wrestler Nichole Honderich (44 kg class) finishes her attack with a cross-face on her way to a gold medal day at the Kenner Rams Wrestling Tournament. Submitted by Paul Klose

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEARS

Early Deadlines

Ad deadline for

HALIBURTON ECHO

December 17th at 4pm for the December 24th Edition

MINDEN TIMES

December 17th at 4pm for the December 25th Edition

THE HALIBURTON ECHO and MINDEN TIMES

will be closed Monday Dec. 24th through December 27th

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From the staff of the Haliburton Echo and Minden Times.

Senior basketball team ties game

The following sports briefs were compiled by Judi Paul's HHSS class.

Wednesday, Dec. 5

The senior boys' basketball team played a spirited, high-tempo exhibition game against the St. Thomas Titans. The Red Hawks had a chance to win in the last seven seconds, but the game ended in a 40-40 tie. Captains Zach Cox and Louis Ferracuti had double doubles. Zach had 22 points and 12 rebounds and Louis had 12 points and 10 assists.

The junior boys' basketball team commandingly beat the St. Thomas Aquinas

Titans in their own gym by a score of 43-13.

Great overall team effort and big shout-outs to Ben Davis for his leadership, Angus Sullivan for stifling defence, and Joseph Patrick for his offensive prowess en route to a 16-point outburst (and 45-foot last-second buzzer-beater three-pointer).

The wrestling team had a great day at the Kenner wrestling tournament.

Matt Pheaton earned silver, while Matt Sexsmith earned gold. In senior action, Cody Cox earned bronze, Keith Burley and Caitlyn Griffin earned silver, while Nichole Honderich and Maia O'Sullivan left the tournament as champions.

Peewee A Storm defeat Parry Sound

There are always games that you look forward to on the schedule. Statements games; games that mean more than simply a win or loss. These are games that show what your team is capable of. For Smolen Dentistry's Highland Storm Peewee A team, Saturday's two-game away stand against an undefeated Parry Sound squad were exactly those kinds of games.

Although our team has done very well in tournaments, it's always been felt that we must do better in the regular season when the teams have proven to be more consistently challenging. In the three games prior to Saturday, Parry Sound had defeated our boys once and tied twice and have rolled through the rest of the schedule untouched by other teams.

Saturday's first game started with our team playing very strong but a six-minute lull in the second period showed that Parry Sound can do a lot of damage very quickly when given the opportunity. Devyn Prentice started the scoring in the first but Parry Sound quickly tied it. Owen Smith put us out in front again and Kyle Cooper followed with a nice goal as he was fall-

ing down after being checked. A penalty shot by Parry Sound provided some tense moments but Josh Bellefleur was up to the task and the opportunity was denied. Ben Schmidt then followed up with a beautiful glove high shot and things appeared to be well in hand for our squad – that's when the bottom fell out. Six minutes and three quick goals and the game was suddenly tied going into the third period.

Despite the set-back the Storm rallied and Alex Petrie found the back of the net off the face-off to put us back in the lead. It was not to be though, and with five minutes left Parry Sound's star player broke free to tie it up once and for all, 5-5.

The second game started with Parry Sound taking command by scoring two goals right away. This time it was our boys' turn to comeback. Alex Petrie scored first after some fine passing with Kyle Cooper but Parry Sound responded to make it 3-1. Before the end of the second, Ben Schmidt on a feed by Owen Smith brought our boys back to within one.

In the third period, the Storm put it all together. Kyle Cooper tied it up and

Petrie's pass in front to Smith had us up by one. Parry Sound managed to tie it one more time but our crew took control quickly after that. Jacob Haedicke made a nice long pass up to Schmidt who followed up to score on his own rebound and then completed the hat-trick off the face-off quickly after that. In the final minute, Parry Sound pulled their goalie but Nik Dollo put the game away for good. Final score 7-4.

Congratulations boys, your heart and determination show that you are capable of beating anyone, if you choose!

Be sure to come out and cheer on the boys as they try to avenge an earlier loss to Huntsville this Saturday in Minden at 6 p.m.

Submitted by Jon Petrie

Midget girls drop two nail-biters

The Minden Car Quest/Canadian Tire Midget BB Storm girls' hockey

team dropped a pair of games on the road Saturday in Toronto. Our first game against Leaside #2 in the morning held many scoring opportunities for both sides. Leaside tipped the scale in their favour with a 3-1 win over the Highland Storm squad. Jessica Duchene was the lone Storm sniper with a quick slap shot beating the goalie on the short side off a nice cycle play midway through the third period.

The Storm girls played their second game in an evening tilt with the Scarborough Sharks. Again, many scoring chances were created by both sides. Alicia McLean put home a rebound off a scramble in front of the Scarborough netminder late in the third period to bring the score to 2-1. We could not pop in another goal to tie the game and the score remained the same.

Keep up the efforts in generating scoring chances, girls – the puck is starting to bounce in our favour. Next home game is Saturday, Dec. 22 at 7:30 p.m. against the West Northumberland Wild.

Submitted by Dan Marsden

Saving the Highland Games

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

The chief organizer of the Haliburton Highland Games believes the event will return this summer for its 25th anniversary.

There was plenty of celtic spirit at a fundraiser featuring live music, dancing, refreshments and a loonie auction at the Kinmount Community Centre on Dec. 1. Due to a decrease in sponsorship from local businesses, last year's event was cancelled, with just the dance competition taking place.

"We're very hopeful," said Breanne Mansfield. "We have a bunch of new people on our

committee."

Friday's fundraiser raised approximately \$1,000, which Mansfield said was in the neighbourhood of what organizers were hoping for.

The next fundraiser will be a Robbie Burns Day celebration at the Haliburton Legion on Jan. 26. There will be other fundraisers as well, although their dates are not scheduled yet.

Mansfield did not wish to disclose a dollar amount organizers will need to raise in order for the event to go ahead. Local sponsorships will be coming in at the same level as last year, she said.

The organizing committee is also seeking corporate sponsorship.



Chad Ingram Staff

Mike Lockwood played some pipes during a fundraiser for the Haliburton Highland Games at the Kinmount Community Centre on Dec. 1.

17th Annual Christmas Challenge

Join the Challenge and help us to make a difference

As the Christmas party season commences, The Haliburton County Home Builders would like to encourage you to include its Christmas Challenge in your plans. Large or small, each gift will help fill the Christmas hampers distributed to the 4C's and Minden Food Bank for families in need.

Step 1: Call in advance to the Home Builders Office 705-457-6901. Members of the Home Builders Association will pick up your gifts and deliver them to the workshops in Haliburton and Minden.

Step 2: Collect unwrapped toys or food items at your office or your Christmas Party.

Whether this is the first year you have taken the challenge or the 17th year all gifts are needed. Are you looking for ideas? Why not collect local gift certificates. Certificates with a \$15.00 value make perfect gifts for our teenagers.

Call 705-457-6901 or email info@hchba.ca

Remember

to make the most of the Challenge have your gifts ready for pick up BEFORE December 14th. Early delivery to the workshops means the elves have enough time to prepare for Christmas.

Drop off locations, where the public are invited to drop off until Dec. 15th

Village Donuts, Haliburton
V & S Stedman's, Haliburton
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Choose 'presents' of mind when shopping this year

Local residents can turn a page on the usual holiday gift-giving ideas by including the printed word for children on their shopping lists.

Books that are interesting, engaging and age-appropriate can be a great way for adults to spend quality time together with children while helping to improve a youngster's speech and language skills, according to the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit.

"Books are a great stocking stuffer or gift item to put under the tree," says Karly Jessup, a family health nurse with the HKPR District Health Unit. "For a low-tech item, books can be high-impact when it comes to improving children's communication skills and nurturing their love

for reading."

In Ontario, it is estimated one in 10 preschool children has a communication delay. Reading with a child can head off potential problems, since it stimulates speech and language skills as adults share new words and meanings with a child.

This, she notes, provides an essential building block for healthy growth and development, as well as success in school.

Jessup's advice for wrapping up the ideal book for the holiday season is simple: "Be sure it is age-appropriate, and something that your child will want to pick up and read."

Toddlers and pre-schoolers may prefer books with repetitive and rhyming text, as well as pictures and interactive features such as holes or flaps for lifting.

For older children who are less inclined to read, books with exciting plots or ones that reflect their particular interests may be more likely to grab their attention.

"Take the cue from your child," Jessup suggests. "If a young child loves pictures and want to flip back and forth all over the place, he or she may not be quite ready for books with longer and more detailed plots."

Giving a child the choice to pick his or her own book can also be an option, she adds. Gift certificates to a local bookstore can spur children to choose a book that they are more likely to read.

If children are dreaming about high-tech gadgets this holiday season, families may want to consider an electronic book reader to fulfill gift expectations - and encourage reading. If costs are an obstacle to gift-giving, Jessup suggests taking a child to the local library over the holidays and getting him or her to sign up for a library card.

"It can give them independence and ownership to what they want to read, as well as introduce them to a world of books that's available at their fingertips," she notes.

For local residents who have questions about ways to encourage reading, or who want to find out more about their child's speech and language skills, visit www.kid-talk.on.ca or call the health unit toll-free at 1-866-888-4577.



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Winter Guide

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Sunset over Head Lake through a Glass ball by Lia Howe

 **RAILS END GALLERY & ARTS CENTRE**

Performance explores storytelling

In conjunction with The Haliburton School of the Arts' Wrap it Up! end-of-semester show and sale, theatre artist Shelly Quick's Tales from the Wedding Guest will see its debut performance. Spectators are invited to become participants through the informal sharing of their stories with a single performer in a carefully constructed environment. Tea and cake will be served. Entrance is free.

In Samuel Taylor Coleridge's poem, *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*, a mysterious guest appears at a wedding, selects one of the merry-makers from the crowd and tells him a remarkable tale that irrevocably changes his life. Why does the stranger choose a wedding to tell this odd story? And what is the responsibility of the listener, once the tale has been told? These are the questions that serve as jumping off points for Shelly Quick's interactive performance installation, *The Wedding Guest's Tale*.

Shelly Quick is a Canadian artist who has been living in South East Asia for more than a decade. Recent works

include directing Mary Zimmerman's *Arabian Nights* for the Open Stage, Singapore, August, 2012, co-devising *Paper Boat*, a performance installation at the Arts and Science Museum Singapore, April, 2012, and performing in Pantheatre's *Fin du Grand Stage* in Paris, November, 2011.

She is currently studying fibre arts at Haliburton School of the Arts.

Venue: Haliburton School of the Arts, Room 7

Date: Saturday, Dec. 15

Performance Times: 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m.

Address: 297 College Drive, Haliburton

Fleming College student Shelly Quick will be performing *The Wedding Guest's Tale* at the college on Dec. 15. It's free to see. /Photo submitted



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Breakfast of champions

Cordell Carpet held their annual contractors' breakfast Dec. 6. Mary McKee sent in this list of gift bag winners: Gary Burtch, John Cowling, R&B contracting, Celina Thrasher, Marty Sisson, Tim Pringle, Luther Crego, Steven Drew, Steve Swinson and Peter Scheffee. The grand prize went to Don Lewis.



Brad Sales and the staff of Cordell Carpet hosted a successful contractors breakfast on Dec. 5.
Photo by Laura Smith

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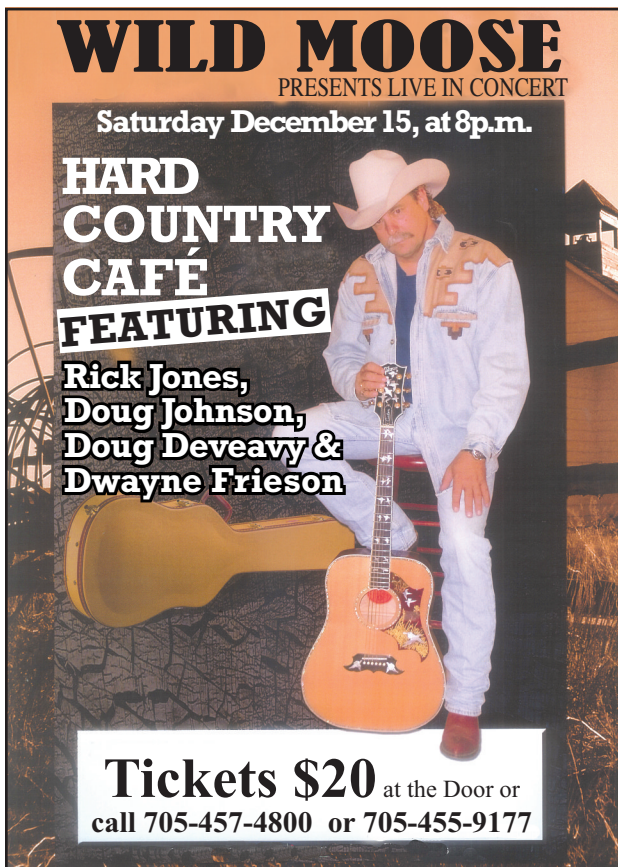
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Coming Events

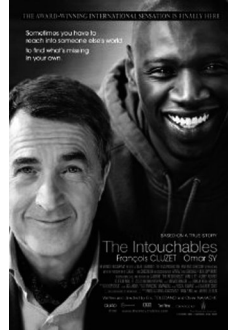
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2 shows – 4:15 & 7:15
The Northern Lights Pavilion in Haliburton Village
Tickets \$8.00 at the door



Coming next:
Jan 10/13: STILL
Feb 14/13: TO ROME WITH LOVE
More info: www.haliburton-movies.com

The 6Th Annual Haliburton International Film Festival was a great success. Thank you to all who came out! A special thanks to the Haliburton Highlands Grannies, Steve Todd, Chris King, eOne Entertainment, and our sponsors: Dentistry in the Highlands, First Page SEO, The Highlander, Hali's Bistro, Barry Hart & Heather Alloway, Parker Pad & Printing, Wintergreen Maple Syrup Barn, Canadian Tire, Minden Pharmasave, Emmerson Lumber, Anje Hilkers/Pampered Chef, Todd's Your Independent Grocer, Floyd Hall Insurance Brokers, Haliburton Yoga, Haliburton Highlands Community Co-Op, Canoe FM

Ring in the New Year at the Legion



Legion br. 624

Jan Simon PRO
Wilberforce Legion

Weekly Events Dec. 10 to 16

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Monday | Bid Euchre | 7 p.m. |
| Tuesday | General Meeting | 7 p.m. |
| Wednesday | Darts | 7:30 p.m. |
| Friday | Pool | 1:30 p.m. |
| | Jam Session | 7 p.m. – Come to play |
| Saturday | Meat Draw | 2 to 5 p.m. |

or listen to great music

Upcoming Events

New Year's Eve Party will be held Monday, Dec. 31 at the Lloyd Watson Centre from 9 p.m. to close. ****Please note correction on ticket price \$20/person.** The DJ will be Pat Casselman. Price includes a buffet to be served at approximately 11 p.m. Make this a night to remember.

Holiday hours at the branch are early close Dec. 24 at 5 p.m. There will be no euchre.

Closed Christmas Day and Boxing Day and closed early on New Year's Eve at 5 p.m.

There will be no euchre.

community calendar

Post your event for free on the web. Go to: www.mindentimes.ca or Community Calendar link at: www.haliburtonecho.ca

Shout Sister Choir is looking for new members. Practices are Thursday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Haliburton United Church, 10 George St., Haliburton. www.shoutsisterchoir.ca

Parkinson's Disease Support Group - Do you have Parkinson's Disease? Do you know or love someone with Parkinson's Disease? Join our group for information, support and awareness. Meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 1:30 – 3:30 pm. New location: Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team Education Room on the ground floor of the Medical Centre. For more information please call Janet Bottum, BSCN, RN, Senior's Health or Barb Fraser, MSW, RSW, Social Worker 705.455.9220 or E-mail: info@hhfht.com

Head Lake Grill Toy Drive: Bring in a New unwrapped toy or gift card and receive 10% off your bill, as well as a chance to win a weekly prize of \$25 gift certificate at Head Lake Grill. All toys will be donated to the 4C's Toy Drive.

ATTENTION stamp collectors in Haliburton and Minden area, new club is forming in the Highlands. Please contact Kevin for more information at 705-489-1038 or 705-457-5949

December 12: Lochlin United Church annual community "Old Fashioned Christmas Carol Sing- a- Long" - Lochlin Road off the Gelert Road (County Road 1). Great music accompaniment with Rev. Harry Morgan and "Friends". Refreshments following: Hot cider and Christmas goodies. Donations to the Food Banks gratefully accepted.

December 12: The Alzheimers Society & Von Day program of Haliburton Christmas Open House from 1:30p.m. to 3:30p.m. Drop in to enjoy some Christmas cheer and share the holiday spirit.

December 13: THOSE OTHER MOVIES presents Intouchables at the Northern Lights Pavilion, 4:15 and 7:15. Tickets are \$8.00 at the door. Info at 705 286-2644

December 14: The Highland Concert Band hosts the 3rd Annual Christmas Concert at St. George's Anglican Church at 7:30p.m. Admission is per donation and all proceeds will go to local Food Banks

December 14: Wilberforce Christmas Lunch from 12-2PM Come join Community Care for its annual Christmas Lunch at the Wilberforce Legion. We will have delicious food, entertainment (Uptown Country) and fun for all. Cost \$15 per person. To register please contact Community Care 705 457 2941

December 16: Highlands Wind Symphony Christmas Concert at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion at 3p.m. Adults \$10, students \$5, Family \$25, available at Masters Book Store or Minden Pharmasave for more info call Andy 457-2100 or Kelly 286-3377

December 22: Twelve Mile Lake Historical Church – Bake Sale from 10a.m. – 2p.m. located at 1112 Chambers Rd (turn off Hwy 35 at Highlands Motel, South of Carnarvon)

Coming Events



Christmas Concert

Also Featuring The Highlands Swing Band
With Jerelyn Craden

Sunday, December 16th 3:00 PM

Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion
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Tickets: Adults \$10, Students \$5,
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The United Church of Canada

Highland Hills Pastoral Charge
705 286-1470
highhills@interhop.net

Sunday Services:

Zion United Church (Carnarvon) - 9am
Maple Lake United Church (Hwy 118) - 10am
Minden United Church (21 Newcastle) - 11am

Sunday, December 16

and Cantata: 'Glorious Christmas'

by joint choirs of Zion & Minden United Churches:
at **ZION 9:00am** and **MINDEN 7:00pm**
Join Minden's 'Turkey on a Bun' Supper 5:30pm:
Adults \$10, Children (5-12) \$5. Tickets Minden
Pharmasave, and the Minden United Church office

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

December 24

ZION - 3:00pm Family Service
MINDEN - 7:00pm Family Service
MAPLE LAKE - 9:00pm
Communion Service



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CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE:

SOLEMNITY OF CHRISTMAS:

CHRISTMAS EVE

Monday December 24th, at 7:00p.m.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Saturday December 29th Vigil Mass at 4:30p.m.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY,

MOTHER OF GOD:

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Monday December 31st, at 4:30p.m.

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD:

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Minden Times

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Minden

Santa coming to Wilberforce

Wilberforce

Hilda Clark

448-2018

It truly is amazing how much is accomplished by volunteers. In most areas of life in our communities volunteers can be found fulfilling many needs and providing many services. And in doing so they not only help others but experience the personal satisfaction and joy that comes with their efforts.

How thoughtful of the volunteers who now lead the quite new Haliburton Highlands Chapter 54 of CARP to organize a Volunteer Recognition Day on Wednesday, Dec. 5. Held at the Haliburton Curling Club dozens of volunteers from across the county representing fire depart-

ments, the fields of arts and entertainment, health and social services, sports and the outdoors, environmental stewardship, service clubs and churches were recognized. And they just represent the hundreds of volunteers that could not attend. Appreciation is extended to members of CARP, to the community sponsors and to all who spoke so positively there about the importance of volunteering.

Without volunteers, events such as the community Christmas Carol Service at the Wilberforce United Church on Sunday, Dec. 9 would not have been presented for the enjoyment of many. The Rev. Peter Walford Davis warmly led the service. Wayne Cooper accompanied on piano the carols sung by the choir and congregation. The children and youth of the Wilberforce Full Gospel Church led by Melanie and Elwood Storey joyfully sang several delightful pieces. Lessons were read by Father Ron Myers, Ken Jones, Joan Noble, Hilda Clark and Wayne Rutter representing area churches. A time of fellowship and refresh-

ments concluded a fine evening of song.

Volunteers, real live elves, are busily preparing for the arrival in Wilberforce of the big elf, Santa Claus himself. He comes on Sunday, Dec. 16. Do be along the parade route between the school and the Lloyd Watson Centre by 12:30 p.m. to welcome him to town and enjoy the floats and walkers who will accompany him. There is still time to dream up a float, don a costume and have some fun in the parade. Perhaps there are some clown suits and wigs available for the parade participants. Lots of fun activities always go on at the hall while the children visit with Santa.

The Wilberforce School Christmas concert will be held at the Lloyd Watson Centre on Tuesday, Dec. 18 beginning at 2 p.m. Always some interesting acts presented especially now that it is a Grade 4 to 8 school where students are capable of presenting short plays as well as entertaining music.

A good time was had by all at the annual Christmas in Carnarvon

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West Guilford

Eleanor Cooper

754-2278

The turkey dinner at the West Guilford Baptist Church was served to a packed hall on Friday, Dec. 6 for the princely sum of \$5 a head. Almost 80 people enjoyed the sumptuous feast. Imagine if the event were widely advertised!

Did you ever hear of a Christmas tree fundraiser? At Keith Burns's invitation and initiative about 20 people including our rector, Anne Moore, appeared at Keith's spruce tree plantation to cut down their chosen tree. Funds were collected and handed on to the Rev. Anne for church expenses. Of course not all 20 were in shape to actually chop a tree, one being the Burns's grandson, Michael, age five months and Sandra and Greg Bishop's granddaughter, five months old tended by parents, Courtney and Christopher Bishop. Heather and Tom are the parents of Michael. Tom was delighted to keep the fire of branches going to toast the

marshmallows to go along with the hot chocolate, tea or coffee with cookies and fruit bread. Thanks for the fun, Keith and Frances.

The Rev. David Barker was speaker at the Men's Breakfast on Saturday at St. George's Church about 35 in attendance.

Welcome to the new owners of the house owned formerly by Carol and Ted Duncan. Debbie and Craig Worksford moved in last summer and already Debbie has involved herself in a community quilting group at Eagle Lake.

Kathleen Owens was one of those who presented a hilarious skit at the annual Christmas in Carnarvon. The ladies from the Minden parish entertained cleverly, dressed as nuns, to sing the lively number from Sister Act. The Lochlin ladies were amusing as always. Joy Davey as MC handled everything to make it all run smoothly. The Tri-Vocals added their musical expertise to the Catherine Kellet's accompaniment. To use a hackneyed phrase - a good time was had by all.

Euchre scores for Dec. 4. High - Iris Miscio and Perry Morrison. Low - Barbara Brownsberger and Ray Sisson. Most lone hands - Kay Morrison and Ron Bain. Specials- Jean Randell and Peter Laplante.



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Notices

A910



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Deaths



CLARKE, Ethel Marguerite (nee Evans)

- Passed away suddenly at the Ross Memorial Hospital, Lindsay on Sunday, December 2, 2012. At the age of 85. Beloved wife of the late Harvey Martin Clarke (February 5, 2012). Much loved mother of Kevin (Anne) (both deceased), Janet (Randy), Greg (Kerry), Murray "Mic" (Donna), Sharon (Mike). Loving grandma of Matthew, Taryn (Gordon), Daniel (Victoria), Leanne, Kelsey (Nick), Andrew (Skye), Stuart (Emily), Lindsay (Michael). Lovingly remembered by her best friend Reta and her husband Bob Allen. A gathering will be held for the immediate family members. Cremation has taken place. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the "Community Kitchen" at SIRCH Community Services would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged locally through the **GORDON A. MONK FUNERAL HOME LTD.**, P.O. Box 427 Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0. www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

12707157

COOPER, Marie Evelyn - At People Care, Tavistock on Monday, December 3, 2012, Marie Evelyn Cooper (nee English) in her 91st year. Wife of the late Al Cooper (2002). Dear mother of Don Cooper (Betty) and Janet Robb (Steve). Loving grandmother of Sarah Robb (Kevin) of Toronto and David Robb (Karen) of Kitchener, and great grandmother of David Jr. Sister-in-law of Anna English of Haliburton, Mildred Cooper of St. Catharines, Earl Cooper (Eleanor) of West Gifford, Evelyn Bradley of Thunder Bay, Shirley Rapson of Toronto, and Louise Cooper of Ottawa. Predeceased by her brothers Jack English and Vance English and sister June Parker. Private family arrangements. If desired, memorial donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario or a charity of your choice would be appreciated and may be arranged through the **SMITH-LEROY FUNERAL HOME**, Woodstock, (519) 537-3611. Personal condolences may be sent at www.smithleroy.com

12707149

*Until the day breaks,
And the shadows flee away.*

Memoriam Verse #25
To remember a loved one with this verse
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In memoriam

Dawson, Clifford

In memory of a dear father who passed away December 12, 1997. Fifteen lonely years have passed away. Since that great sorrow fell, But in our hearts we mourn the loss of one we loved so well.
~Sadly missed by daughter Kathy and son-in-law Keith

12708172

In loving Memory of Annie Wood
In our hearts your memory lingers,
Sweetly tender, fond and true
~Callum & Janet

12697864

*Loving memories never die
As years roll on and days pass by.
In our hearts a memory is kept
Of the ones we love and will never forget.*

Memoriam Verse #20
To remember a loved one with this verse
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11283851

In memoriam



TIGHE, Floyd

In loving memory of our father who passed away
December 17, 2009.

A beautiful memory,
dearer than gold.
Of a father whose worth
can never be told.
There's a place in our
hearts no one can fill.
We miss you, Dad,
and always will.

**Lovingly remembered by
Darryl, Dwain and Families**

In memoriam

STEWERT, BERNEICE - In loving memory of a dear mother, grandmother and great grandmother, who passed away December 12th, 2002.

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Exercise your influence

➤ Think outside the gift box and choose presents that encourage loved ones to get active

If you want to find a present that moves people this holiday season, make it one that is sure to get them out and active this winter.

Local residents are being encouraged to put "active" gifts under the tree this holiday season. According to the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, these types of presents are a unique way people can show their care and concern for the health of loved ones. Research shows that regular physical activity helps maintain healthy body weight, assists

those dealing with anxiety and stress, and reduces the risk of chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart problems and stroke.

"You are showing others that you care about their well-being and want them to look after themselves by being active," says Sue Shikaze, a health promoter with the HKPR District Health Unit. "It is a great way to wrap up your love for someone."

Active gift options can include sports equipment such as skates, snowshoes, skis, toboggans, snowboards, hockey sticks or curling brooms, as well as the related safety equipment like helmets and gloves. Purchasing passes for ski trails, fitness or yoga classes or bowling alleys can also help people stay active during winter months.

"There can be a tendency to want to hibernate during the winter months, so

these kinds of gifts can spur people to get out and try activities they may not be able to do any other time of year," Shikaze says.

Signing someone up for lessons in a new activity like skating, skiing, dancing, swimming, Tai Chi or yoga can be a great gift too. "You are engaging people to try an activity that doesn't involve turning on the TV, computer or video game," she adds.

Shikaze notes that people can also give the gift of health to others in the community by donating funds to a local agency or sports association that provides free or low-cost recreation programs in Haliburton County. Financial support can also be directed to national organizations such as KidSport and Canadian Tire's Jumpstart that provide funding for families to offset the costs of sports equipment and regis-

tration fees.

If money is tight this holiday season, Shikaze suggests more affordable options. Skipping ropes, basketballs, footballs, yo-yos, bicycle helmets, yoga mats, swimming goggles or pedometers can be great, but inexpensive gift ideas, especially for children. Tucking a trail book or subscription to a health or physical activity magazine in a stocking can also do the trick, she adds.

Trying out an affordable or free activity over the holidays is another way for families and friends to spend time being active together, without having to spend a lot of money. Shikaze suggests finding out about the many free skating events offered in the community at this time of year, or just going outside together to enjoy some safe winter activities.

New emissions regulations starting in 2017

Glen Woodcock
QMI Agency

When it comes to pollution controls and climate change, the Canadian government usually marches to its own drum - much to the dismay of some environmentalists.

But when it comes to the country's important automotive industry, when the Americans say "jump," we have to follow because most vehicles built here are for

export to the U.S.

So when President Barack Obama announced stringent new regulations for fuel economy and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions last year, you knew it was only a matter of time before Canada got into line.

That happened on Nov. 27 when Canadian Environment Minister Peter Kent announced proposed regulations to improve fuel efficiency and reduce GHG emissions in cars and light trucks for model years 2017 to 2025.

By matching the new U.S. regulations, the government says Canadian motorists could reduce gasoline consumption by 50 per cent and their vehicles could emit 50 per cent fewer GHGs by 2025.

The new rules will go into effect in 2017 and essentially require automakers to cut emissions by about five per cent a year until 2025.

"It's the right thing to do," Kent said in a press conference. "At today's gas prices, a Canadian driving a model year 2025 vehicle would pay, on average, around \$900

less per year compared to driving today's new vehicles."

While commending the government for its new GHG emissions standards, the Canadian Vehicle Manufacturers Association admitted it won't be easy.

With that in mind, Environment Canada says light trucks won't have to meet the new standards as quickly as cars because manufacturers need extra time to make sure these vehicles will still be able to do the work required of them.

For more auto news, go to autonet.ca.

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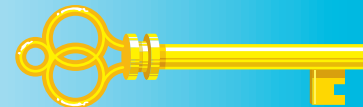
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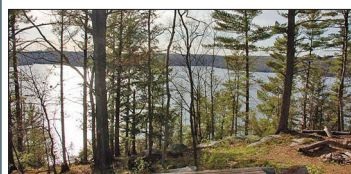
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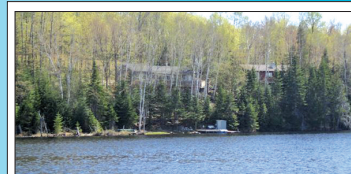
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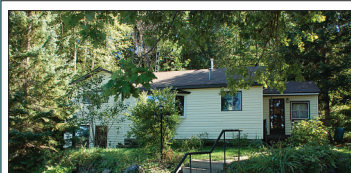
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Independently Owned & Operated

ACREAGE, LOTS & GETAWAY SPOTS

Angel Road - Ski Area Lot.....**\$37,900.**

Haliburton Lk Rd 15 AC.....**\$48,500.**

Trappers Trail 2 Bldg Lots**\$8,750 ea**

Gelert Road Lot 4 Acres.....**\$23,900.**

Hand Dr (Salerno Lk)**\$16,000.**

Salerno Lk Rd Backlots**\$15,000.**

Hwy 118-9ac Zoned Comm...**\$108,900.**

County Rd 6 - 3.5 Ac**\$25,500.**